

Ethiopians use napalm claims EPLF

ROME, Jan. 2 (R). — The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) charged today that the Ethiopian Air Force had attacked the town of Keren and several surrounding Eritrean villages controlled by anti-government rebels with napalm. An EPLF spokesman here said it was the first time Ethiopian forces had used napalm since 1975. Keren, a market town set in beautiful rolling hills about 90 kms. north of the provincial capital of Asmara, was captured by EPLF forces last July. Since then it had settled down to a relatively normal life with the market open, shops doing a bustling trade, electricity and water supplies resuming and the EPLF starting a bus service.

JORDAN TIMES

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When he meets Sadat

Carter expected to highlight flexibility in Begin proposals

CAIRO, Jan. 2 (R). — President Carter will tell Egyptian President Anwar Sadat this week that he sees a Palestinian homeland as the first step towards creation of a Palestinian state, the Cairo daily Al-Messara reported today.

The newspaper quoted diplomatic sources for its report.

Mr. Carter will stop at Aswan, in Upper Egypt, on Wednesday for a meeting with Mr. Sadat, who launched a new phase of Middle East peace-making by visiting Israel in November, but rejected settlement terms proposed last month by Israel.

The American president upset Egypt last week by saying that he considered a Palestinian state undesirable.

Al-Messara said today that "Carter will put forward his vision on the question of a national homeland for the Palestinian people, which he considers to be the start of the creation of a Palestinian state."

Al-Messara said that, in Mr. Carter's view, the future Palestinian state and its links with Jordan should be decided by the people of the West Bank and Gaza in a plebiscite.

The plebiscite would be supervised by a "world body", and its date would be decided by the foreign ministers of Egypt, Israel and the United States who meet in Jerusalem later this month, Al-Messara said.

They will be meeting as the political committee of the Cairo preparatory conference. The committee, and a military committee, were set up during the Ismailia talks.

Al-Messara quoted official sources as saying the Aswan meeting would give a "strong im-

petus" to the work of the two committees.

Egyptian officials said today the Palestinian question would dominate the talks and that President Sadat would reiterate Egypt's insistence on self-determination for Palestinians on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip.

The officials said the Aswan talks could be as short as one hour.

Egypt insists on the principle of a Palestinian state although, like the U.S., it would like to see the territory linked in some way to Jordan. Jordan has no objection to such a link, provided this is the expressed wish of the Palestinians.

The semi-official daily Al-Ahram said today that Mr. Sadat will hand Mr. Carter Egyptian counter-proposals to Mr. Begin's peace plan. The Egyptian proposals will be tabled at the foreign ministers' meeting in Jerusalem.

Al-Ahram added that Egypt's proposals would be based on the principles of total Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to establish their own independent state.

Al-Ahram said the proposals included a timetable for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Sinai with security guarantees so that neither side would not be subject to military attack or threat.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohammad Ibrahim Kamel yesterday met members of his country's delegation to the Cairo preparatory peace conference to work out Egypt's answers to the Israeli draft peace plan.



GARLANDS FOR JIMMY — Indian President Sanjiva Reddy and his wife welcome a garlanded President Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalynn to New Delhi on New Year's Day. (AP wirephoto)

U.S.-Indian relations not affected by Carter's gaffe

NEW DELHI, Jan. 2 (R). — President Carter today fell victim to an officially-sanctioned system that gives unique freedom to the White House press corps.

He whispered to Secretary of State Cyrus Vance he wanted a "cold and very blunt letter" sent to Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai, who was sitting across a conference table from him, about their differences on nuclear policy.

He thought he was conversing privately with Mr. Vance, but sound engineers for an American broadcasting network recorded every word.

The soundmen were in a small group from the White House press corps invited into the room along with photographers during a break in the Carter-Desai talks.

What they recorded was made available to every newsman travelling with the president on his current foreign tour under an arrangement approved by the White House itself.

Similar groups frequently act as reporting pools for the remainder of the White House press who do not attend presidential events, usually because of lack of space.

Their reports are mimeographed and distributed by the White House press office under arrangements that have existed for years.

An official Indian spokesman said the recording was made without authority.

Perhaps it was under the rules followed by the Indian press minister's office. But in Washington it happens several times every day when the president meets visitors in the White House Oval Office.

"He's pretty adamant about that nuclear fuel thing," "When we get back, I think we ought to write him another letter, but cold and very blunt," the president was quoted as saying.

White House Press Secretary Jody Powell and Indian Foreign Secretary Jagat Mehta later rejected suggestions that the president was getting tough with Mr. Desai.

Both said the talks had been conducted in a warm and friendly atmosphere, giving impetus to Indo-American relations that have improved since the president and the prime minister took office last year.

Mr. Desai himself told Indian reporters: "I will not misunderstand Mr. Carter and I am not at all upset about it. His remarks were recorded without notice and this is not fair to him."

New shipment of enriched uranium to India

Mr. Carter's gaffe occurred shortly before he spoke to the Indian parliament of his pleasure at strengthened Indo-American relations and announced that the United States would send another shipment of enriched uranium to India despite differences over safeguards to prevent the production of explosives from nuclear wastes.

He told his audience the United States would also sell India heavy water to replace su-

plies lost as a result of an explosion at one of its heavy water production plants last month.

Though embarrassed by the eavesdropping incident, the White House made no attempt to stop the issuing of a transcript of the recording or to censor or suppress it.

But before the report was issued, Press Secretary Powell, who was dismayed by what had happened, met with other officials to draw up an explanation of what the president had in mind.

Mr. Powell said the president's intention was to send Mr. Desai a letter explaining in straightforward and frank terms the problems India might encounter purchasing American enriched uranium when Congress approved new restrictions on exports.

But he admitted: "He did not give care to his choice of words, because neither he nor Mr. Vance were aware that the conversation was being taped for subsequent public release."

Hazards of the system

The system used by the White House press corps has its

hazards if the president's attention wanders and he makes remarks that the White House says are misinterpreted, as it did today.

The sound men are equipped with the most sensitive electronic equipment, including long boom microphones that they swing over the president's head.

Mr. Carter is fully aware of this, permitting it to be used at the start of conversations with visitors and even during the first minute or two of conference that are continued behind closed doors.

He frequently uses it to his advantage, making remarks or stressing a point he knows will be carried on news agency tickers and radio minutes after he has spoken.

The operation misfired here to the embarrassment of the White House because the president apparently forgot the hazards involved.

White House officials said they did not think the system would be changed despite the trauma of what happened today.

But if a decision was made to abandon it, there would be cries that the White House was violating guarantees of freedom of the press.

Iran ready to defend Somalia

TEHRAN, Jan. 2 (AFP). — Iran is apparently willing to come to the defence of Somalia if the latter is attacked by Ethiopia, according to a warning yesterday by the Shah that Iran could not remain idle if Ethiopia violated Somali borders.

Iran's decision to extend its "protection" to the Horn of Africa and its oil arteries was seen by observers here as consistent with Iran's general policy of combatting "subversion" throughout the region.

Iran will first try to mediate in the dispute between the two countries, however, according to the statement by the Shah.

While Iran intervened militarily to save the Sultan of Oman from Dhofar partisans, the imprecise wording of yesterday's warning did not necessarily indicate that Iran envisaged military action in the Ethiopian-Somali conflict.

Observers held that, in case of an Ethiopian counter-attack

against Mogadishu, Iran would supply Somalia with large-scale military aid, including the modern U.S. weapons which it has so far said it was unable to provide because of American bans.

The fact that the Shah issued the warning after lengthy talks with President Jimmy Carter in which the two sides found broad agreement indicated that his position may have U.S. support.

Observers in Djibouti saw the Shah's warning as a dual success for Somali diplomatic efforts.

The observers said the warning constituted the first concrete, positive result of the recent visit to Iran of Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre as well as the first open commitment to Mogadishu by another country in the Ogaden conflict.

Nature stressed the privileged nature of relations between Iran and the U.S. and noted that Gen. Barre, who left Tehran shortly before the arrival of the U.S. president, had given the Shah a message for Mr. Carter seeking U.S. aid.

Observers in Tehran said the Shah's warning appeared to be mostly a statement of principle for the moment, since both he and Mr. Carter had stressed their hopes for Somali-Ethiopian reconciliation.

However, if Somalia were attacked by a government backed by communist countries, it could count on the Iranian commitment, the observers said.

Bomb at Egypt's embassy in Bonn defused in the nick of time

BONN, Jan. 2 (R). — A time bomb laid at the Egyptian embassy here was defused today two minutes before it was due to go off, police said.

Two kilograms of explosives with Russian markings were found only a few metres from an oil tank in the embassy's boiler room, they added.

Hussein, Carter agree:

No reason for Jordan to join peace talks now

TEHRAN, Jan. 2 (Agencies). — President Carter who said on Wednesday, before his departure from Washington, that he hoped His Majesty King Hussein would take part in the Egyptian-Israeli peace talks, yesterday "saw no reason for Jordan to join the talks at this time."

The U.S. chief executive, who met King Hussein for a final 45 minutes of talks in Tehran prior to his departure for New Delhi, told reporters it was "at this moment hard to decide" whether Jordan should become involved in the Sadat-Begin peace talks.

He had not tried to persuade King Hussein to join the peace negotiations, he added.

"That is a decision for him to make," the president added. "At the moment, I think President Anwar Sadat is strongly representing the Arab position, and for the moment I see no reason -- I think the King agrees -- for Jordan to join the talks directly."

King Hussein, who flew here on Friday to meet Mr. Carter and the Shah had a 20-minute meeting with the president last night besides the discussion this morning.

In a television interview broadcast in New York yesterday the Shah said he thought King Hussein should play a much more important role in Middle East peace moves than he has had.

He said "Remember the We-

st Bank used to belong to Jordan, and I personally think King Hussein should become more involved in the negotiations that have been going on."

President Carter was asked today whether there was a meeting of minds between himself and King Hussein on the issue

of the occupied West Bank. The president said the U.S. position on the West Bank had been very clear in the past, and this was compatible with the views held by the Shah and "substantially compatible" with the views held by King Hussein.

King Hussein stresses Palestinian right to self-determination

TEHRAN, Jan. 2 (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein has asserted Jordan's determination to back the right of Palestinians to self-determination, called for total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and a comprehensive settlement in which all parties concerned should participate.

In an interview with America's NBC Television recorded here the text of which was released in Arabic by the Jordan News Agency in Amman today, King Hussein said that Jordan's potential involvement in current peace efforts depended "on the grounds on which the efforts are based."

"Jordan has always been ready to participate and back collective efforts aimed at reaching a peaceful solution based on United Nations resolution 242 and 338," the King was quoted as saying.

"We are of the opinion that Sadat's speech to the Knesset included a workable framework of principles, and that any future settlement depends on Israel's position; but Menachem Begin's latest plan for the West Bank of Jordan proves that Israel has not responded in any way to anything leading to a reasonable settlement," the agency's Arabic version reported King Hussein as saying.

Asked why Jordan had not sent a representative, or an observer, to the Cairo meetings, although the West Bank was part of Jordan, the King reported that United Nations resolutions 242 and 338 gave Jordan the right to take the West Bank back but subsequently the Rabat conference changed the nature of Jordan's responsibility in this matter. Egypt's position is totally different since it is discussing the future of Egyptian occupied land and so is Syria's position.

Dealing with the West Bank of Jordan, one is speaking of the Palestinian problem as a whole, and this goes beyond Jordan's responsibility.

We have always called for the return of the West Bank and believed that the Palestinians should be given the chance of free self-determination under

er United Nations auspices, and Jordan will certainly do its best to insure that. But as far as we can see Israel has not moved a single step towards the achievement of just peace. Consequently we must know the direction we are to follow before participating in any peace efforts," JNA quoted the King.

Asked whether Jordan accepted any of items mentioned in Begin's plan, King Hussein said: "His plan does not include any positive content. He does not have the right to decide that the Palestinians are to choose either the Jordanian or the Israeli nationality. Any settlement must include the return of the occupied land; and any modifications must be slight and by both parties; Jerusalem must be under Arab sovereignty and the people of Palestine must be granted the right of self-determination," according to the agency.

Asked whether an Israeli statement of its intentions to withdraw would be of any advantage, the King replied: "Yes, that will certainly help peace efforts on condition that Israel commits itself and withdraws from the land occupied in 1967, does not make changes or modifications in the occupied land and guarantees the legitimate rights and self-determination of the Palestinians."

The King said there was still a possibility that a joint Arab delegation would go to Geneva.

In reply to another question, concerning his expectations if President Anwar Sadat found himself in a position to accept a unilateral settlement, King Hussein said: "I do not believe that Sadat will take that step unless you mean that the Arabs will refuse taking their lands back in exchange for peace."

"I believe that Begin's plan is a step that dangerously puts things back," JNA quoted the King.

Asked whether Israel would be more flexible in the future, he replied: "I believe that it must, because there is no other choice," according to the Arabic version released by JNA.

Dayan said to accuse Sadat of intransigence

TEL AVIV, Jan. 2 (R). — Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan told the Israeli cabinet that President Anwar Sadat has taken an uncompromising stand in peace talks with Israel which could endanger current peace efforts, the newspaper Maariv reported today.

Mr. Dayan gave the cabinet a political review yesterday and ministers inferred that he and Prime Minister Menachem Begin intend no concessions beyond those offered to Mr.

Sadat in Ismailia on Dec. 25 and 26, Maariv said.

The newspaper gave no source for its story. Israeli officials refused to comment on the report on the cabinet's secret discussion.

According to Maariv, Mr. Dayan quoted to the cabinet a number of statements made by President Sadat since his summit talks with Mr. Begin, and said that he feared the Egyptian leader's uncompromising stand may endanger peace efforts.

Kuwait's new emir says policies will continue

KUWAIT, Jan. 2 (Agencies). — The new Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, today pledged to follow the domestic and foreign policies of his predecessor, Sheikh Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah, who died of a heart attack on Saturday.

He was making his first broadcast to his people since he was sworn in on Saturday. Sheikh Jaber, 50, said: "We will continue the march begun by our great late emir and will follow his steps in order to secure more achievements."

As heir apparent and prime minister in the past 11 years, Sheikh Jaber wielded increasing powers and was, with Sheikh Sabah, one of the major policy-makers in Kuwait.

A local newspaper, Al-Anba, said today a new Kuwaiti cabinet was expected to be formed in the next two weeks after a new prime minister had been named this weekend, or at the beginning of next week.

His Majesty King Hussein today sent a cable of condolences to Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad in which he expressed his deep sorrow on the death of Sheikh Sabah Al Salem, describing him as "a wise and sincere ruler," who had been close to his people.

The government of Jordan has meanwhile announced seven days of official mourning by government departments on the occasion.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran returned to Amman Saturday after offering condolences on behalf of the King, Crown Prince Hassan, the Viceroy, the government and the people of Jordan.

Sheikh Jaber thanked all "sister and friendly countries which shared Kuwait its sorrows."

Earlier in the day the Emir accepted condolences from the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani, the Lebanese Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss and Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat.



Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad

King Khalid of Saudi Arabia, Egyptian Vice President Hosni Mubarak and other Arab leaders flew yesterday to Kuwait to offer their condolences.

D'Estaing: M.E. peace requires Soviets

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 (R). — France would be ready to discuss guaranteeing peace in the Middle East as part of a political settlement there, French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing said in a television interview broadcast yesterday.

He added that support from the Soviet Union was essential for a settlement.

"It is not possible to have safeguards if one of the major superpowers is out of the agreement, and is free or even decided to give support to one or two of the countries of the region," he added in the interview.

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Trading slow as Stock Exchange opens contd. from P. 1

The shares of Jordanian public companies with paid up capital of over JD 100,000 are eligible to be traded on the Exchange floor.

There are 62 such companies with declared capital totalling JD 210,195,500 and paid up capital of JD 110,096,393. Total assets of these companies amount to JD 144,910,905.

Total number of shareholders are 170,367 who between them hold 68,838,681 shares.

All companies whose stock is listed on the Exchange will pay an annual fee of two per cent on their declared capital up to a maximum fee of JD 1,500. The minimum fee will be JD 50.

The Exchange has issued a list of brokerage fees scaled according to the value volume of each transaction. The maximum one per cent is payable on transactions up to JD 10,000 value. Between JD 10,000 the fees are 0.7 per cent, from JD 20,000 fees are 0.5 per

cent, from JD 30-40,000 fees are 0.3 per cent and on transactions over JD 40,000 brokers will receive 0.1 per cent.

Brokers themselves are charged a 20 per cent commission by the Exchange on their total fees. This will be levied equally on the buying and selling brokers, who will each pay ten per cent.

The Exchange holds two sessions daily except Friday. The morning session 10:00-11:00 a.m. is the trading session and the afternoon session 1:00-2:00 p.m. is for settling.

Foreigners living in Jordan can buy shares in Jordanian companies subject to individual approval by the Council of Ministers. This can be a protracted procedure and it is unlikely that any foreigner will be able to profit from speculative trading which requires quick response to market pressures and trends.

However the Exchange authorities are seeking an amendment to existing legislation to permit other Arabs to invest freely through the Exchange.



Dr. Hashem Sabbagh (extreme right) with brokers and interested observers on the Stock Exchange trading floor in Amman on Sunday, the first day of operation of the Exchange. (JT photo)

Merrill Lynch

The Administrative Committee of the Exchange was fairly strict in vetting applications for broking licences. Of thirteen applications received four were rejected completely, seven were issued licences (see box) and two have still to accept invitations to become brokers.

Reliable business sources have told the Jordan Times that another brokerage house may be formed by Jordanians in partnership with the world's largest stock broking firm, the giant U.S. Merrill Lynch & Co. Inc. or its main subsidiary, Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith who maintain offices in Beirut, Dubai, and Abu Dhabi. If such a partnership is formed an application for a broker's licence will almost certainly be viewed with favour by the Committee according to Exchange sources.

Another possible broker on the Exchange is the Jordanian-Arabian Investment Bank, currently under formation with declared capital of JD 5 million.

However the Exchange Administrative Committee will view an application from this bank only after it forms a subsidiary company whose operations are strictly limited to broking.

All seven licensed brokers are private limited companies. Only one, Financial Services Inc. Co. Ltd. which has the highest declared capital of the seven (see box) is licensed to perform all four functions licensed by the Exchange.

Trading is presently restricted to stocks and shares of Jordanian public companies. However Dr. Sabbagh and his advisers are currently drawing up procedures for operating a secondary bond market to deal in government gilt edged issues.

However the initial sale of new issues will not go through the Exchange.

"We have no intention of getting involved in the primary market for new bond or stock issues," Dr. Sabbagh said. "No stock exchange in the world operates a primary market."

Although the creation of secondary bond market will give investors an easy way of liquidation of gilt edged bonds the Central Bank of Jordan will still maintain its guarantee of buyer of last resort for any investor who wants to sell government bonds before their maturity date.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The British Council is showing a film, Shakespeare's King Lear, directed by Peter Brook, tonight at 6:00 p.m. and again Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Pick up your reservations and free tickets from the British Council before the performance.

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FOR RENT

Deluxe flat consisting of one bedroom, living room and verandah in Jabal Hussein, Nazareth Sisters Street. Contact tel. 38286 daily from 9:00 - 12:00 a.m. - 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

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Brokers licensed on the Amman Stock Exchange

1. The Financial Services Co. Ltd. Capital: JD 30,000. Owners: Hani Sakdija.
2. Sameer and Sameh Bros. Co. for Investment. Capital: JD 10,000. Owners: Sameer Sharif Al-Jabari, Sameh Sharif Al-Jabari.
3. Commercial Office for Buying and Selling Stocks. Capital: JD 10,000. Owners: Suhaib Barakat, Naim Barakat.
4. Al-Ikhas Office for Buying and Selling Stocks. Capital: JD 10,000. Owners: Akram Mahmoud Ghazali, Khalil Ibrahim Joudi.
5. Petra Co. for Dealing in Financial Paper Capital: JD 10,000. Owners: Moussa Abdullah Al-Hamud, Mohammad Hafez Jarrar, Mohammad Abdul Rahman Jarrar, Rakad Mohammad Al-Farhan.
6. Financial Investments in Stocks and Bonds Co. Capital: JD 20,000. Owners: Wajeh Ali Saqr Shannak, Haj Ali Saqr Shannak, Haj Yusef Saqr Shannak and Sami Saqr Shannak.
7. The International Financial Centre. Capital: JD 20,000. Owners: Daoud Qishah, Sameer Ameen Al-Hassan, Nabeel Ameen Al-Hassan.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

Mr. Walid Faleh's Letter to the Editor (Dec. 27 1977) was of great interest to us for two reasons:

In the first place it reinforces a fact we have long known -- that the local and international English-speaking community of Jordan are awaiting the birth of "Perspective", a magazine for and about women in the Arab World, with particular reference to Jordanian women.

Secondly, it proves that our enthusiasm and determination have brought us to the forefront before the appearance of our magazine. It is unfortunate that the appearance of "Perspective" has been delayed.

Thanking Mr. Faleh for his personal interest in our project, we would like, however, to state that we have done our "homework thoroughly."

We felt the need for the magazine, both in Jordan and abroad, formulated our "clear policy plans" and meticulously considered the editorial, technical and marketing aspects of the project.

Many of Jordan's printers were approached and, when one was at last selected -- at a much higher cost than the others -- work started.

The November date was announced for the "magazine to see daylight", the distribution agencies were contacted, typesetting began and artists worked on illustrations and layout.

Finally, a dummy -- complete with paper layout -- was produced. But, technical difficulties which could not possi-

bly have been foreseen, forced us into a setback.

But, our enthusiasm and determination have not waned. We have only found that our supporters have given us more determination and enthusiasm. No time was lost before we started contacting printers in Cyprus, Greece, Lebanon and Britain.

We are now in the final stages of concluding an agreement for the printing of "Perspective", in the hope that similar difficulties will not arise.

It both consoles us and adds to our distress that we are not the first people to have suffered setbacks. We are determined to have the best quality possible for our magazine at any cost.

Editors
"Perspective" Magazine
P.O. Box 35024 - Amman

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Time to cook, or leave the kitchen

During his several flying tours through the Middle East last year, U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance made it clear that the United States viewed its role in the Middle East as a mediator and an honest broker, but he also added with equal regularity, if not the same ferocity, that the United States would take a more active role in the peace-making process if and when the time were ripe for that. Well, judging from the past six weeks, and the status of the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations, one thinks that the time may be ripe.

It has always been the American contention that progress towards peace can only come out of a protracted negotiating process, which was logically presumed to be scheduled for Geneva. But this has been overtaken in time by the Sadat initiative and the Israeli-Egyptian talks in Jerusalem and Ismailia. The peripheral issues of conflict between Egypt and Israel were settled in hours, and the two negotiators have gotten themselves stuck on the very sticky-prone issue of the Palestinian people. If ever there were a need for an honest mediator, it is now.

The talks that President Carter will have with President Sadat in Egypt this week will revolve largely around the Palestinian issue, and the Americans will find out again very quickly that they are viewed by most Arabs as the only party capable of nudging Israel into a more conciliatory and just stand on the Palestinian question.

The negotiating forum that the Americans have consistently said is essential for peace talks is now in progress. And the central impasse in any Arab-Israeli peace agreement -- the Palestinian rights issue -- has emerged loud and clear. It remains for the Americans now to put their declared intentions to the test, or, in more casual American vernacular, it's time to cook or get out of the kitchen. Otherwise, the process of Arab disenchantment with American motives and capabilities will probably speed up dramatically.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I, on Monday, said observers are agreed Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's proposals have led peace negotiations to a cul de sac and have returned the area's conflict to the stage preceding President Anwar Sadat's initiative. His Majesty King Hussein told American television, on the Face the Nation programme, that the Middle East can now expect dangerous developments unless Israel shows willingness to respond to the current peace initiative. As long as Israel refuses to recognise the reality of the existence of the Palestinian people the areas will be pushed to the edge of an explosion with far-reaching effects on the whole world.

AL DUSTOUR said King Hussein's statements in Tehran to the American television clearly show Jordan still insists on the basic principles it adopted vis-a-vis the current peace efforts and that United States President Carter has not been able to convince Jordan to take part in the particular moves undertaken by Egypt and Israel. It is hoped, however, that President Carter has come to see that without Palestinian self-determination there can be no out of the present impasse. The hope stems from the fact that President Carter stated, after meeting His Majesty in Tehran, that he agrees with King Hussein on a common outlook to the Palestinian problem.

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RESTAURANTS

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A Stock Exchange official explained the role of "salesman" as, "for example the company is permitted to send someone to another country to sell shares that may not be moving on the Exchange floor."

The Stock Exchange is operating under the temporary law of 1977. Meanwhile Dr. Sabbagh said that studies are in hand to develop the present administration of the Stock Exchange into a Stock Exchange Commission.

He also told the Jordan Times that a revision to the Companies Act was being introduced to proscribe insider trading. This amendment will give the Stock Exchange the power to void any transactions in shares where they feel insider knowledge has been used which damaged any party involved in the transaction. The Exchange will also have the power in such cases to enforce compensation to the injured party.

The Amman Stock Exchange is the fourth Arab stock exchange. Others operate in Kuwait and Dubai. Beirut's exchange, the Bourse suspended operations during the civil war but is expected to reopen shortly. An exchange in Cairo closed in the late 1950's following nationalisation of all major companies.

Closing Prices

Closing prices of only four shares were quoted today. They are Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co. Ltd. JD 6.750 (up from JD 6.600 yesterday); Jordan Electricity Company Ltd. JD 1.350 (down from JD 1.400); Jordan Cement Factories Ltd. JD 15.250 (down from JD 15.300) and Jordan Housing Bank 1.100 (unquoted yesterday).

All four companies are partly owned by the government.

National News Roundup

Higher Health Council meets

AMMAN, Jan. 2 (JNA). — The Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chairman of the Higher Health Council presided over the first meeting of the council at the Medical Services Department Saturday morning. The meeting discussed the services and responsibilities of the Ministry of Health in all fields, as presented by the Ministry's under-secretary. The meeting was attended by the acting health minister, the minister of education, and senior officials. The council was formed last March to oversee the coordination of efforts amongst all health institutions.

Loans approved for new factories

AMMAN, Jan. 2 (JNA). — The Industrial Development Bank has agreed to offer five loans totalling JD 448,000 for the establishment of a number of industrial projects including a plastic pipes factories in the Jordan Valley a nail factory at Marka. Since last January the bank has offered 61 loans totalling JD 4,701,800.

American military cadets arrive

AMMAN, Jan. 2 (JNA). — Ten students of a U.S. Military College arrived here on Friday night for a ten-day visit during which they will tour a number of military units, and historical sites.

FURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT

Composed of two bedrooms, sitting and dining and living rooms, hall, bathroom, kitchen and aluminum covered veranda in first class apartment situated at 4th Circle Jabal Amman near the Katamoun grocery — moderately priced. — Phones: 51190 - 44925.

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Local company seeks secretary with first class knowledge of English and Arabic typing and general office duties. Tel. 56273/74

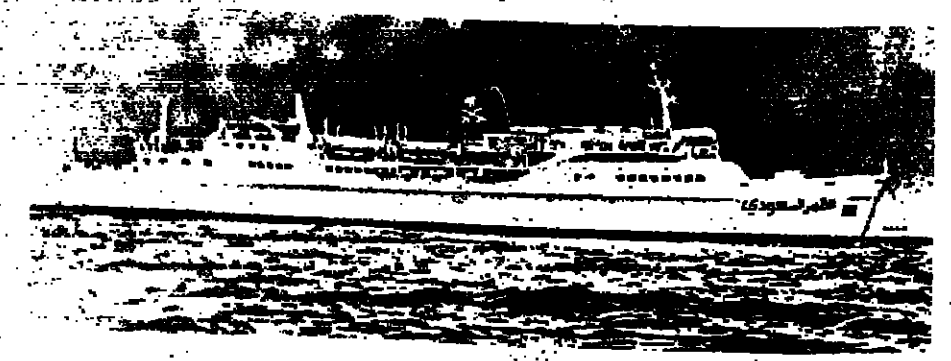
SALE OF HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS

Zappas fully automatic washing machine, curtains, furniture etc. Must be sold this week. Please phone 63641 — after 3:00 p.m. only.

EMBASSY SEEKS VILLA TO RENT

Four/five bedrooms, three bathrooms, large reception rooms, dining room, garden, staff quarters. — Jabal Amman, Shmeisani. Please write to P.O. Box 1232, Amman.

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INAUGURATION VOYAGE

14TH JANUARY 1978 AND ALL AROUND THE YEAR

AQABA / SUEZ : ONE WAY PER ADULT AS FROM JD 17.
" " : ONE WAY PER CAR AS FROM JD 34.
AQABA/JEDDAH : ONE WAY PER ADULT AS FROM JD 23.
" " : ONE WAY PER CAR AS FROM JD 47.
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UK defence minister expected here

AMMAN, Jan. 2 (R). — Britain's Secretary of State for Defence Frederick Mulley is expected here next Saturday on a two-day visit to Jordan, British Embassy sources said today.
Mr. Mulley, who will fly in from Cairo is expected to call on King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan and hold talks with Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker.
Though Jordan has in recent years turned to American arms it still buys pieces of equipment, including military vehicles from Britain which also extends aid in training its armed forces.

Government to increase share in Bank

AMMAN, Jan. 2 (JNA). — The Cabinet has decided to double the government's shares in the Arab-African Bank through buying one per cent of the new increase in the Bank's capital. Thus the government will pay JD 130,000.

Belgian university professor visits Yarmouk

AMMAN, Jan. 2 (JNA). — The President of Yarmouk University Adnan Badran today received the chairman of Brussels University Administrative Board and discussed with him the possibility of starting scientific and technological cooperation. The guest also visited the different departments of the university and was briefed on its plans and development. He also visited the University of Jordan where he was briefed on its establishment and activities.

During Carter visit

France will reaffirm intent to go ahead with fast-breeders

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 (AFP). — French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing told a television audience here yesterday that he will reaffirm France's intention to go ahead with its controversial fast-breeder nuclear energy programme when he meets visiting U.S. President Jimmy Carter in Paris this week.
"The so-called fast-breeders could reduce 50 times the consumption of natural uranium ore, so it is absolutely vital for us. But we think we must progress along this way and if we have all safeguards, why not?" Mr. Giscard d'Estaing told interviewers Bob Clark and Pierre Salinger on the ABC television network programme Issues and Answers.
During his visit to Iran President Carter and the Shah made an agreement in principle in the nuclear field allowing Iran to buy between six to eight nuclear reactors from the United States, American sources said here.
The agreement can only be ratified after the U.S. Congress adopts legislation it is currently debating.
Iran, the sources said, has agreed to abide by all the international control clauses aimed at ensuring that waste from nuclear reactors will not be used for military ends.
Iran has already bought four reactors from Western Europe — two from France, two from West Germany.

Iran, which has signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, has an ambitious nuclear programme, providing for the purchase of 20 nuclear reactors.
Negotiations on the question between the United States and Iran have been stalled for several months because the Carter administration introduced new regulations governing the export of U.S. nuclear technology.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Jordanian fils	Buying/Selling
U.S. dollar	315.00/317.00
U.K. sterling	604.00/608.00
W. German mark	150.90/151.80
French franc	67.60/68.00
Swiss franc	157.20/158.10
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.20/36.40
Japanese yen (for every 100)	131.90/132.70
Dutch guilder	138.90/139.70
Belgian franc (for every ten)	96.10/96.70
Swedish crown	67.40/67.80

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Not received

U.S. oil firms discuss Sinai oil reserves with Israel

WEST JERUSALEM, Jan. 2 (AFP). — Two American oil firms prospecting in southern Sinai, Neptune and Western Desert are engaged in talks with the Israeli government on the future of reserves estimated at 40 billion barrels in territory occupied by Israel, reports said yesterday.
A report in yesterday's Yedioth Aharonoth newspaper said directors of Neptune had a meeting with Israel Premier Begin and Finance Minister Elich on Friday to discuss the El Tur project in which Neptune has invested several million dollars.

WALL STREET REPORT

Not received

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Not received

Gold price not received.

AMMAN MARKETPLACE

RESTAURANTS
[Image of a plate with food]

THE FLYING CARPET CLUB
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an elegant
oriental
buffet
TEL: 42161 AMMAN

CHATEAU GRILL RESTAURANT
2nd Circle, near the French Loal
Presents to
FAMILIES PICNICERS
1500m entry 10 minutes
[Image of a family]

MANDARIN CHINESE RESTAURANT
[Image of a person eating]

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FURNITURE
[Image of a person sitting at a table]

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[Image of a person sitting]

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Bn Ghazal Rd. (Opp. unknown soldier man)

FOOD MARKETS
[Image of a person shopping]

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deluxe French
biscuits for all occasions

BELO
[Image of a person sitting]

**EYES EXAMINED
CONTACT LENSES (HARD & SOFT)**
[Image of glasses]
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Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Tel. 42248

SWEETS
[Image of a person eating sweets]

CONFECTIONERY GIFTS BONBONNIERES
PATCHI
JABAL AMMAN, WADI ESSER ST. TEL. 42080
JABAL HUSSEIN, MOULANA RD. TEL. 3990

CAPRICCI
[Image of a person sitting]

TRAVEL & SHIPPING
[Image of a ship]

JORDAN EXPRESS CO.
TRAVEL TOURISM
PACKING FREIGHT FORWARDING
TRANSIT
INSURANCE
[Image of a person sitting]

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TELEX: 20-41520

RENT
[Image of a car]
CAR

SATELLITE
RENT-A-CAR
[Image of a car]
BRAND NEW
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MODELS
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SHEPHERD HOTEL
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FLOWER SHOPS
[Image of a flower]

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Plastic vases.
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BUSINESS SUPPLIES
[Image of a person sitting]

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6 CHANNEL

JORDAN TELEVISION

Proudly presents the new cycle starting January 1, 1978

SUNDAY

- 6:15 Sinbad Jr. Woody Woodpecker, Laffabits
- 6:30 The Waltons
- 7:30 News in Hebrew
- 7:45 Filler
- 8:00 News in Arabic
- 8:30 The good life
- 9:00 Roots
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:15 Hawaii 5-O
- 11:00 News in Arabic

Roots :

On the origins, history and hard tidings of the black people. The story of human beings' struggle for freedom and dignity; man's pride in his roots.

MONDAY

- 6:15 Caarlton and the Whetlies, Laffabits
- 6:30 Man from Atlantis
- 7:30 News in Hebrew
- 7:45 Filler
- 8:00 News in Arabic
- 8:30 The many wives of Patrick
- 9:00 The Angels
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:15 Dickens of London
- 11:00 News in Arabic



Dickens of London :

Charles Dickens considered to be the greatest English novelist, and we usually meet his novels. But this time it's the other way round. Wolf Manlowits wrote about the life of this great writer, his poverty stricken childhood through wealth and fortune as a writer to his death of 58.

TUESDAY

- 6:15 Here comes Mumfie, Laffabits
- 6:30 Medical centre
- 7:30 News in Hebrew
- 7:45 Filler
- 8:00 News in Arabic
- 8:30 Devenish
- 9:00 Anna Karenina
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:15 Crown court
- 11:00 News in Arabic

Anna Karenina :
The famous Tolstoy novel.



Devenish -- comedy :

Arthur Devenish, a dynamic super-efficient and vital man, is a driving force without whom the firm -- if not the whole of British industry -- would surely grivel to a halt. This is the opinion of Devenish himself. The opinion of his colleagues however is very different.

WEDNESDAY

- 6:15 Terrytoons, Laffabits, Adventures of Sinbad
- 7:00 I dream of Jeannie
- 7:30 News in Hebrew
- 7:45 Filler
- 8:00 News in Arabic
- 8:30 Robin's nest
- 9:00 Duchess of Duke Street
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:15 Delvecchio
- 11:00 News in Arabic

Robin's Nest -- comedy

Delvecchio : A detective series.

THURSDAY

- 6:15 Jungle Ted, Laffabits
- 6:30 Little house on the prairie
- 7:30 News in Hebrew
- 7:45 Filler
- 8:00 News in Arabic
- 8:30 Upchat line/love the neighbour
- 9:00 Bestsellers
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:15 Movie of the week
- 11:00 News in Arabic

Upchat Line -- comedy

FRIDAY

- 6:15 Arabic programme
- 6:30 Gunsmoke
- 7:30 News in Hebrew
- 7:45 Filler
- 8:00 News in Arabic
- 8:30 Fawlt towers
- 9:00 The brothers
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:15 Barett
- 11:00 News in Arabic

Fawlt towers -- comedy :

A 6 half-hour comedy series which tells the story of Basil Fawlt, owner of a small hotel, and a host who is incompetent and rude, a life time experience of things going wrong has taught him nothing. Fortunately his wife Sybil is extremely efficient. One of the staff is Manuel a trainer waiter who on a good day can manage 6 words of English.



SATURDAY

- 6:15 Jamie and the magic torch, Laffabits
- 6:30 Arabic programme
- 7:00 Partridge family
- 7:30 News in Hebrew
- 7:45 Filler
- 8:00 News in Arabic
- 8:30 Miss Jones and son
- 9:00 The foundation
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:15 The Age of Uncertainty
- 11:00 News in Arabic

Miss Jones and son -- comedy

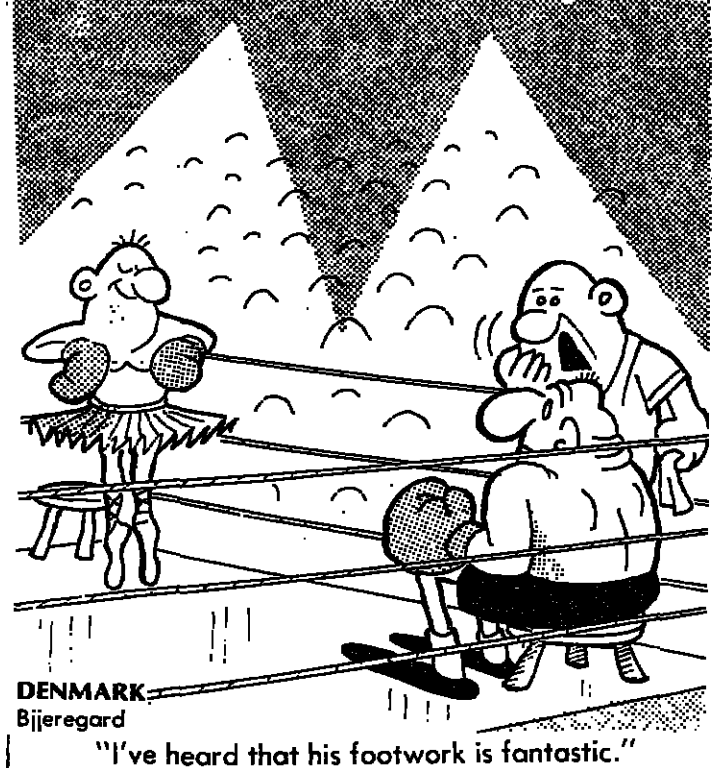
The Foundation :

The Foundation is the story of a business woman -- and a beautiful young woman at that -- plunged suddenly and unexpectedly into the upper echelons of business on the death of her property tycoon husband. She not only has to cope with the wheelings and dealings of codirectors and rivals alike but has a home and a family to care for.



Notice: The latest batch of Your Daily Horoscope has not yet been received. The Jordan Times will resume publication of this column as soon as possible.

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



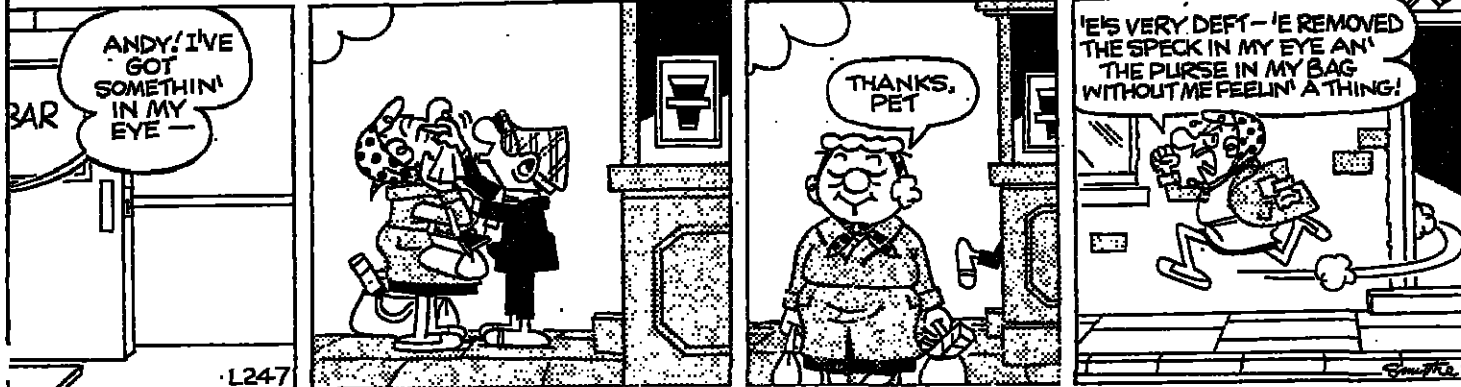
DENMARK

Bjerggaard

PEANUTS



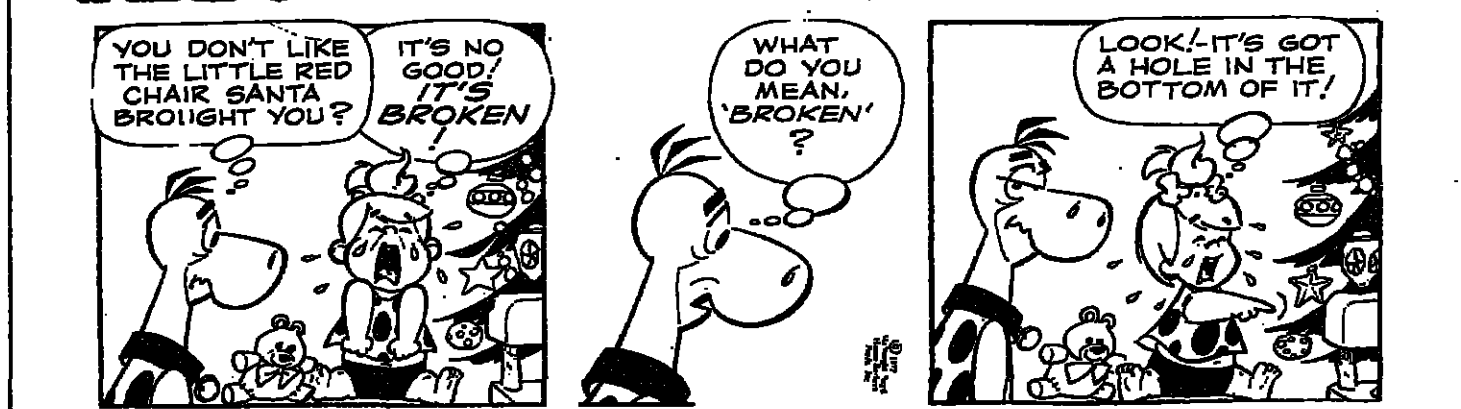
ANDY CAPP



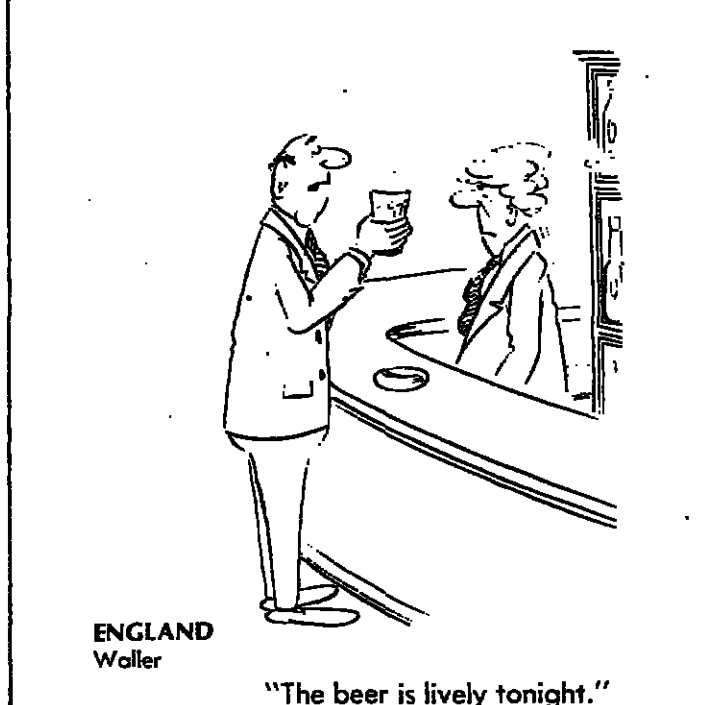
MUTT & JEFF



THE FLINTSTONES



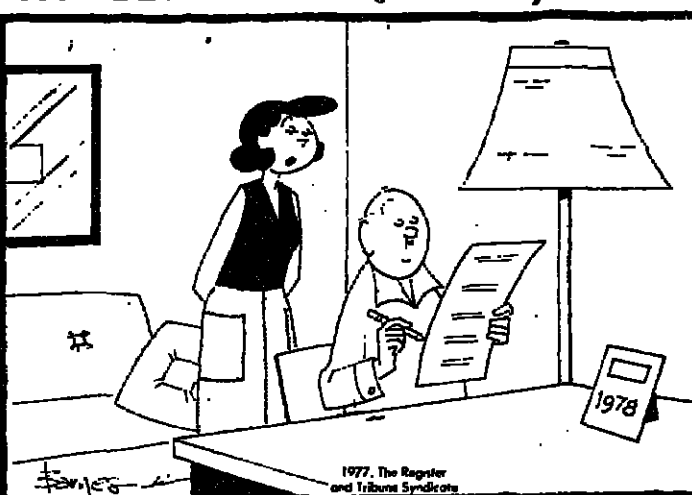
LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



ENGLAND

Woller

THE BETTER HALF By Barnes



"Those New Year's resolutions are very challenging. It's a good thing you made them for 1987."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1977 by Chicago Tribune

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ A9
♥ 97
♦ A107
♣ QJ10965

WEST
♦ QJ
♥ Q843
♦ 632
♣ K432

EAST
♥ 1087652
♦ J10
♦ Q54
♣ 87

SOUTH
♦ K43
♥ AK652
♦ KJ98
♣ A

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 2 ♣ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 ♣ Pass 4 ♦ Pass
4 ♥ Pass 5 ♣ Pass
5 ♦ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♣.

South, declarer in an uncomfortable five diamond contract, put his assets to good use in an impressive display of technique.

We are not enthralled with North's bidding. Since South's diamonds were marked as being no more than four cards long, North should have rebid his clubs rather than prefer diamonds at his third turn. A contract of six clubs would have been easier than five diamonds!

West led his top spade, and declarer realized that he had a problem. Dummy's clubs were an appealing source of tricks, but declarer saw that if he tried to draw trumps and the suit should divide 4-2, he

wouldn't have the entries to establish and cash the clubs. Even if trumps were 3-3, the defenders might still shut out dummy's long suit by persisting with spades at every opportunity, removing vital entries to the table.

Declarer found a better way. He won the king of spades in hand, cashed the ace of clubs and, to prepare for a crossruff, the ace-king of hearts. He entered dummy with the ace of spades and ruffed a club with a low trump. A spade ruff allowed West to discard a club, but declarer was in dummy for another club lead. The wisdom of cashing the hearts was now apparent. If declarer had not cleared those cards, East would stuff a heart and later would have been able to ruff one of declarer's high hearts to defeat the contract.

Since it would not help to ruff in front of declarer, East shed a spade. Declarer ruffed, felling West's king, and led a heart. A careless player would have ruffed with dummy's ten and gone down. Not our South. He ruffed with the ace of diamonds and then took the precaution of ruffing a club with the king, to make sure he could not be overruffed.

Now declarer was down to the ten of trumps in dummy, the jack in his hand and two losers in each hand. But he had taken the first ten tricks. The eleventh trick was easy. He led a heart and ruffed with the ten. East could overruff with the queen, but the jack of diamonds would then be the game-going trick.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ESROU
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

KNWE
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

ROTHX
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

NORMAT
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: "□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □" Answers tomorrow

Saturday's Jumbles: HEFTY CHESS UNTRUE WEEVIL
Answer: To be watched rather than felt — THE CURVES

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Ozone
4. Study
8. Exertment
11. Snail
13. Present
14. Past
15. Medley
17. Foster
19. Food staple
20. Take place
21. Slowdown
22. Its capital is Austin
23. Tomahawk
28. The populace
30. Network
31. Couple
33. Dennis or Clarence

DOWN
35. Orchestra section abbr.
36. Ship's crane
38. Mining chisel
40. Supposing
41. Geraint's beloved
43. Direction
45. Large boiler
48. Set to
50. Philippine volcano
51. Duck
53. Ginger
54. Skiffut
55. Neptune

1. Steady rope
2. Lack of appetite

3. Ancestor
4. Radium symbol
5. Tree of genus
6. Affirm
7. Mademeanor

8. Acquire
9. Labrador or Samoyede
10. Be bound to pay
11. ... rufflet
12. The maples
13. Hydraulic pump
14. Unadorned
15. Ruler of the universe
16. Position
17. Laborer
18. Gladstone
19. Devote from the church
20. Humane
21. Sleepy
22. Ancestress
23. Symbol of innocence
24. Ground
25. Clinker
26. Copy
27. Ship-shaped ornament
28. Threefold comb. term
29. Part of the Bible abbr.

Par time 20 min. APNewsfeatures 12/27

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION	RBC RADIO	AMMAN AIRPORT
Channel 3 & 6: 6:00 Quran 6:15 Cartoons 6:30 Medical Centre 8:00 News in Arabic 11:00 News in Arabic Channel 3: 7:30 Development Program 8:30 Arabic series	Channel 8: 7:30 News in Hebrew 7:45 Filler 8:30 Devotion 8:40 Anna Karenina 10:00 News in English 10:15 Crown Court	Arrivals: 6:00 Cairo (EA) 6:00 Baghdad, Bahrain 6:15 Kuwait (KAC) 6:30 Damascus, Riyadh (SDI) 6:40 Doha, Kuwait (KA) 6:45 Jeddah (SDI) 6:50 New York 6:55 London 7:00 Istanbul (SDI) 7:05 Copenhagen, Vienna 7:10 Madrid, Athens 7:15 Rome, Paris 7:20 Frankfurt 7:25 Beirut (MEA) 7:30 Amsterdam, (KLM) 7:35 Beirut
Channel 8: 7:30 News in Hebrew 7:45 Filler 8:30 Devotion 8:40 Anna Karenina 10:00 News in English 10:15 Crown Court	Channel 8: 7:30 News in Hebrew 7:45 Filler 8:30 Devotion 8:40 Anna Karenina 10:00 News in English 10:15 Crown Court	Departures: 6:45 Beirut (MEA) 6:50 Frankfurt 6:55 Kuwait (KA) 7:00 Jeddah (SDI) 7:05 Istanbul (SDI) 7:10 Copenhagen, Vienna 7:15 Madrid, Athens 7:20 Rome, Paris 7:25 Frankfurt 7:30 Beirut (MEA) 7:35 Amsterdam, (KLM) 7:40 Beirut
Channel 3: 7:30 Development Program 8:30 Arabic series	Channel 8: 7:30 News in Hebrew 7:45 Filler 8:30 Devotion 8:40 Anna Karenina 10:00 News in English 10:15 Crown Court	Arrivals: 6:00 Cairo (EA) 6:00 Baghdad, Bahrain 6:15 Kuwait (KAC) 6:30 Damascus, Riyadh (SDI) 6:40 Doha, Kuwait (KA) 6:45 Jeddah (SDI) 6:50 New York 6:55 London 7:00 Istanbul (SDI) 7:05 Copenhagen, Vienna 7:10 Madrid, Athens 7:15 Rome, Paris 7:20 Frankfurt 7:25 Beirut (MEA) 7:30 Amsterdam, (KLM) 7:35 Beirut
Channel 8: 7:30 News in Hebrew 7:45 Filler 8:30 Devotion 8:40 Anna Karenina 10:00 News in English 10:15 Crown Court	Channel 8: 7:30 News in Hebrew 7:45 Filler 8:30 Devotion 8:40 Anna Karenina 10:00 News in English 10:15 Crown Court	Departures: 6:45 Beirut (MEA) 6:50 Frankfurt 6:55 Kuwait (KA) 7:00 Jeddah (SDI) 7:05 Istanbul (SDI) 7:10 Copenhagen, Vienna 7:15 Madrid, Athens 7:20 Rome, Paris 7:25 Frankfurt 7:30 Beirut (MEA) 7:35 Amsterdam, (KLM) 7:40 Beirut

For advertising in above columns contact "Sout Wa Soura" Tel. 38869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

OUT AND ABOUT

QUICK MEAL
Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabal Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21083. Jabal Al Luwibdeh, Hawuz Circle. Tel. 39646. Jabal Al Hussein, near Jerusalem Cinema. Tel. 21781. Also in Zarqa and Irbid.

Captain's Cabin

The fashionable restaurant for you. Grindlays Bank street. Tel. 2197. AQABA. Open for dinner. Air conditioned. Speciality Italian cuisine. Live Music and dancing.

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THE DIPLOMAT

First Circle, Jabal Amman. Tel. 23592. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and pizzeria. Oriental and European specialties.

لدي في البيت



NEW PREMIER -- Mr. Bulent Ecevit, leader of Turkey's Republican People's Party, faces reporters in Ankara on Sunday after President Fahri Koruturk invited him to form a new government following the defeat in parliament on Saturday, of Mr. Suleyman Demirel's rightwing coalition government. (AP wirephoto)

With Independents on his side Ecevit's cabinet expected soon

ANKARA, Jan. 2 (R). — Independent deputies in the Turkish parliament today publicly declared their support for Prime Minister-Designate Bulent Ecevit, enabling him to say he would announce his new government very soon.

President Fahri Koruturk yesterday invited Mr. Ecevit to form a government after Saturday's defeat on a confidence vote of the rightwing coalition headed by Mr. Suleyman Demirel.

Mr. Ecevit last night met a group of deputies, now sitting as independents, whose recent defection from Mr. Demirel's

Justice Party (JP) ensured its defeat.

The deputies, 10 ex-JP men and one original independent, said today they would join a government led by Mr. Ecevit's Republican People's Party (RPP).

The group, which holds the effective balance of power in the lower house of the National Assembly, did not specify how many cabinet posts it would be given in return for its support.

Mr. Ecevit told reporters he would be able to announce his government in a very short while, adding that he was con-

No survivors likely among 213 in Air India's Jumbo jet crash

BOMBAY, Jan. 2 (R). — Ships and helicopters of the Indian navy have found the wreckage of an Air India Boeing 747 carrying 213 passengers and crew, which exploded and plunged into the sea four miles from the coast here last night.

"They are all presumed dead. We do not think there are any survivors," an airline official said today.

Two Americans and nine passengers from Arab countries were aboard the Jumbo jet bound for Dubai.

Many of the 179 Indian passengers were believed to have been going to Dubai to take up new jobs there.

Thirty-seven women, three infants and 14 children were on the aircraft which lost contact with the Bombay Control Tower ten minutes after take-

off. The plane had a crew of 23.

Many people living near the sea here saw the plane turn into a ball of fire and plunge into the Arabian Sea. "It went off like a bomb and then a huge fire engulfed it and it dove into the sea," said a fisherman who saw the crash.

Air India officials refused to

say what might have caused the explosion and crash -- the airline's and India's worst air disaster.

"We cannot say it was sabotage or otherwise unless we have firm evidence. We cannot speculate. Anything could have happened," an airline official said.

But officials confirmed that the flight had been delayed by

12 hours because of engine trouble. Originally, it was due to fly to Dubai early yesterday morning.

"Our last contact with the plane was when it was four miles from the airport," said an Air India manager. "Minutes after the plane took off we were flooded with phone calls from people who had seen it diving into the sea."

The Indian navy, using four ships and four helicopters, searched for the plane all through the night with the help of infra-red lights.

Navy divers were looking for the remains of the plane today.

Small bits of wreckage and clothing and life-jackets were spotted off the coast this morning.

The jumbo -- named Empress Ashoka -- was the first of the five 747s acquired by the airline. It was delivered in 1971.

Air India began a regular scheduled flight to Dubai to cope with an increasing rush of skilled and semi-skilled workers from India to the Gulf states.

Gandhi supporters' move splits Congress Party

NEW DELHI, Jan. 2 (Agencies). — India's opposition Congress Party today split in two when a convention supporting former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi declared itself the real Congress and elected her as its president.

But Mr. Brahmananda Reddi, the President whom Mrs. Gandhi claimed to have ousted, said in a swift and sharp reaction that the election was unconstitutional and illegal.

He summoned an emergency meeting of the party's Executive Committee, its top policy-making body to assess the situation.

Today's move was the climax of a struggle raging in the former ruling party for months over Mrs. Gandhi's efforts to recapture control. She had headed it with almost total control from the last split in 1969 until she lost general elections last March.

The split occurred when a party rump calling itself the "Convention of Congressmen", after meeting here for two days, declared that it had "unanimously chosen" Mrs. Gandhi as "Congress President". A resolution claimed that the

"convention represented the Indian National Congress."

Only last week, the Congress Party was celebrating its 82nd anniversary.

Following today's move, there are Gandhi and Reddi factions in Congress.

The strength of each faction can be judged by the fact that last month eight members of the Congress Executive Committee, including Mrs. Gandhi, resigned from this top body which has 21 members.

Mrs. Gandhi's electoral defeat last March, when Congress seats in the lower house fell from 350 to 153, resulted in her also losing control of the party.

Mrs. Gandhi is not forming a new party, in the belief that her supporters will have enough strength to sweep her into power as new president of the Congress.

Meanwhile, under the terms of the resolution supporting her today, she has been urged to take appropriate steps to organise the Congress at all levels in consultation with other prominent leaders of her group.



FREE -- The eight-year-old Lebanese boy, Momiah Zein, who was freed by his kidnappers in Athens on Saturday night. The boy, a member of a prominent rightwing family in south Lebanon, was kidnapped in the Greek capital on Friday and a ransom of \$1 million was demanded for his freedom. The boy's father said no money was paid for the boy's release and his mother told reporters the kidnappers were Greeks. Police have declined to reveal details of any negotiations taking place with the kidnappers. (AP wirephoto)

Vietnam says Cambodian forces attacked, occupied border area

HONG KONG, Jan. 2 (R). — Vietnam yesterday accused Cambodia of attacking and occupying several parts of its territory as a border dispute between the two communist neighbours reached possibly its most decisive phase since the end of the Vietnam war in 1975.

Fighting on the Vietnam-Cambodia border has been going on since the end of the

war and last week escalated into what diplomatic sources here described as one of the fiercest battles so far.

Cambodia on Saturday announced over Pnomh Penh Radio that it had temporarily broken off relations with Hanoi. All Vietnamese Embassy staff in the Cambodian capital have been told to leave by Jan. 7 and air links between the two countries have been suspended.

Hanoi responded to the Cambodian move with a call for early talks to settle the border conflict. So far these have been met with stony silence from Pnomh Penh.

But yesterday Vietnam appeared to step up its quarrel with Cambodia when the official Vietnamese newspaper Nhan Dan said Cambodian forces had been sent repeatedly to attack and occupy many parts of Vietnam.

The newspaper's editorial comment, which was carried

by the Vietnam news agency and monitored here, said Cambodian forces had caused "innumerable losses in lives and property to our people."

It added: "We were filled with horror and sadness at the sight of destroyed Vietnamese villages, of Vietnamese -- old people, children and women -- beheaded, dismembered and charred by Kampuchean (Cambodian) soldiers."

Observers here noted that in the background of the border conflict, which might otherwise be dismissed as yet another localised dispute in the tormented history of Southeast Asia, are two of the world's superpowers -- the Soviet Union and China.

China, which has become increasingly friendly with Cambodia in recent months, has expressed regret at the border fighting, but there has been no official comment on the dispute from the Soviet Union, which has close relations with Vietnam.

Arafat slams Carter's Mideast policy, urges commandos strike Israel harder

BEIRUT, Jan. 2 (R). — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat yesterday condemned U.S. policy in the Middle East and called for increased guerrilla operations against Israel.

Mr. Arafat was cheered by about 10,000 Palestinians at a Beirut rally as he hurled defiance at President Carter, who confers with Saudi Arabian leaders and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat this week.

The rally included the biggest display of Palestinian military strength since the civil war in Lebanon ended more than a year ago.

The rally marked the 13th anniversary of the first commando operation against Israel.

The procession was led around a sports stadium by guerrillas carrying rocket launchers and riding in vehicles mounted with heavy machineguns.

Mr. Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, said:

"When Carter says no to a Palestinian state, he says no to peace in the Middle East."

"Peace and stability can only be achieved in the region through the Palestinian revolution," Mr. Arafat said.

Mr. Carter said last week he did not favour establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

Mr. Arafat also replied to recent statements by U.S. National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, saying: "Someone called Brzezinski says 'bye-bye PLO'. To him I say goodbye to America in the Middle East."

In an annual address issued by the Palestine news agency WAFA, Mr. Arafat said: "Let us escalate our military struggle against the Zionist enemy."

The PLO leader said that enemies of the Palestinians, under U.S. leadership, were trying to create a variety of puppet states in occupied Arab territories.

"There capitulationist peace

will pass only over the bodies of our martyrs," he said.

"Be vigilant and grip your guns more tightly, because from their barrels will emerge the answer to all capitulationist solutions."

Mr. Arafat was joined by Mr. George Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

The two men, who have held differing views on how to achieve an independent Palestinian state, were reconciled at a meeting last month of Arab leaders opposed to Egypt's peace talks with Israel.

In the Beirut rally were troops from a military academy

in the Sabra Palestinian camp in the suburbs of the city.

One unit was led by an elderly woman who lost her husband and several of her sons in the civil war. She walked slowly, brandishing an automatic rifle.

A special cheer was reserved for a group of Palestinian academics who had flown from their homes in the U.S. for the event.

The delegation carried banners attacking President Sadat's suggestion that Palestinian professors living in America should represent their countrymen at Middle East peace talks.

1947 U.K. cabinet papers tell how Palestine was abandoned, Stalin's alliance rejected

LONDON, Jan. 2 (R). — Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin suggested a military alliance with Britain in 1947, according to British cabinet papers released for the first time on New Year's Eve.

The papers also showed that in that year Britain was considering some kind of union with France, or perhaps some larger Western European union, while it was also beset with the problems of Palestine and Middle East oil.

Stalin's suggestion of an alliance, made in talks with the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, Lord Montgomery of Alamein, met with an extremely cautious reaction from the Labour Party government of Prime Minister Clement Attlee.

Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin said he was concerned at Soviet intentions and the cabinet, after hearing a suggestion that Stalin might be wanting to secure his Western flank in event of a conflict with the United States in the Pacific, endorsed his view that the matter should not be taken any further.

During a year which saw Britain's first major imperial withdrawal -- the granting of independence to India and Pakistan -- Mr. Bevin was in the midst of a series of key decisions on foreign policy.

Most of the key decisions on India had already been taken by the start of the year, but Western Europe and Palestine demanded constant attention.

With World War II ending just two years earlier, the country was in the grip of economic crisis and the cabinet thought austerity could help create political security in Western Europe.

Mr. Bevin said he wanted a comprehensive study made of the implications of some form of union with France or Western Europe.

Speaking 10 days before the founding of the European Economic Community (EEC) and 26 years before Britain finally joined it, Mr. Bevin said there were obvious political advantages in a closer association.

It seemed likely, he said, "that this could best be achieved by creating a community of commercial interests," although this would not necessarily be economically advantageous to Britain.

The papers also show how Britain, then dependent on Middle East supplies for 60 per cent of its oil, found itself inching towards the "desperate remedy" of partitioning Palestine between Jews and Arabs.

One memorandum, drawn up by Mr. Bevin and Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones, predicted that partition would result in an Arab uprising and that the attendant hostility of Arab states could contribute to the elimination of British influence from the vast Moslem area between Greece and India.

"This would not only have strategic consequences. It would also jeopardise the security of our interest in the increasingly important oil production in the Middle East."

Mr. Bevin tried to avert partition by persuading Dominion governments -- such as Canada, Australia and New Zealand -- to accept Jewish refugees. But he had no success in this, although President Harry Truman of the United States tried to help by including Jews in a special immigrant quota for "displaced persons".

Mr. Bevin finally advised the cabinet that Britain should surrender its Mandate over Palestine and withdraw British troops in 1948, as he was not prepared to enforce a settlement which was unacceptable to Jews or Arabs.

The problem was then gradually handed over to the United Nations, which voted for partition in November 1947.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Israel's population -- official data

WEST JERUSALEM, Jan. 2 (Agencies). — Israel's population rose by 2.1 per cent last year, reaching 3,650,000 on New Year's Eve, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced here yesterday. It said there were 3,076,000 Jews and 574,000 non-Jews, including Moslems and Christians, living in Israel. The Jewish population grew by 1.8 per cent compared with 2.1 per cent in 1976, while the non-Jewish population increased by 3.5 per cent compared with 3.9 per cent in 1976. The number of Jewish immigrants to Israel last year rose to 21,500, a nine per cent increase over 1976.

Spain grants Basque country autonomy

MADRID, Jan. 2 (R). — The Spanish government on Saturday granted provisional autonomy to the violence-ridden Basque country but left Navarre Province the option of a referendum to decide whether it wants to join the new entity, Navarre's reluctance to join the three other Basque provinces in an autonomous region had held up cabinet approval of plans agreed by the government and Basque representatives last month.

Quebec undaunted by Trudeau threat

QUEBEC CITY, Quebec, Jan. 2 (R). — Parti Quebecois leaders yesterday shrugged off Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's warning that he would use force to prevent legal steps by French-speaking Quebec Province to separate from the rest of Canada. M. Claude Morin, the Quebec Minister of Inter-Government Affairs said: "The Quebec people have opted for self-determination, despite what Mr. Trudeau says." He added that the future of Quebec would be decided by Quebecers and not by actions of the type the prime minister was suggesting. Quebec Premier Rene Levesque has promised a referendum on the issue of a separatist Quebec but has not set a date.

After Damascus Siad Barre in Egypt

CAIRO, Jan. 2 (R). — Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre left Cairo today by plane for Aswan in Upper Egypt where he will meet with President Anwar Sadat, the Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported. Mr. Siad Barre, who arrived yesterday after a one-day visit to Syria, was seen off at the airport by Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak.

Golda Meir's condition reported better

TEL AVIV, Jan. 2 (R). — Former Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir, 79, who was admitted to hospital on Saturday and treated for exhaustion, was feeling well today and her condition has improved, a hospital spokesman said. Doctors could not say, however, when she would be released from the Beilinson Hospital near here. Mrs. Meir was taken to hospital after complaining she felt faint. Preliminary tests showed there was nothing wrong with her heart, hospital officials said yesterday.

S. African newsman flees arrest

MASERU, Lesotho, Jan. 2 (AFP). — South African journalist Donald Woods, who fled his country on Saturday and took refuge in the British Consulate here, will leave for London via Mozambique today, informed sources said. Mr. Woods, editor of the East London Daily Dispatch, fled from his home where he was under house arrest with his grey-haired dyed black and wearing a false moustache. He hitched lifts in three cars for the 300 kms. from his East London home to the Lesotho border and then swam the flood-swollen Thele River to cross into Lesotho. His wife and their five children made their way separately by car to Lesotho.

**Sunday Times:
Spy organisation
killed newsman
Holden in Cairo**

LONDON, Jan. 2 (R). — The Sunday Times said yesterday that Egyptian authorities investigating the death of its Middle East correspondent David Holden, believe he was killed by an intelligence organisation.

The report, however, said the identity of the organisation, as well as the motive, remained a mystery.

David Holden, one of Britain's prominent foreign correspondents, was murdered in Cairo shortly after arriving in the Egyptian capital from Israel and Jordan on Dec. 14.

The report said the complexity of the machinery needed to keep track of Holden on his last assignment, plus the professionalism of his shooting and the apparent absence of any hard evidence, have driven

Cairo police to its conclusion that Holden was the victim of an intelligence organisation.

The Sunday Mirror, which two weeks ago carried a report saying Holden was killed by a Palestinian commando unit, said yesterday that Holden was carrying a petition from Palestinian West Bank leaders to President Sadat of Egypt at the time of his death.

Mirror reporter John Knight said the petition was a circular letter signed by West Bank mayors and leaders asking the president to make no deals with Israel.

Knight said he had given information on Holden's death to a senior Egyptian police officer who visited London in connection with the Holden case last week.

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